Action Research Plan

**SCHOOL VISION:** The mission of Blackwell Middle School is to provide a safe, nurturing, and academically challenging learning environment where students prepare to become responsible citizens.

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**GOAL:** The goal of this action research is to provide proof that project based learning helps students learn better, than traditional paper/pencil assignments.

**Activities designed to achieve the objectives**

*The following activities need to take place:*

1. A group will be pre-determined of students, who are going to do a traditional paper/pencil assignment and who are going to do the project based assignment.
2. A pre-assessment test is going to be given to both groups.
3. Groups will be given their different assignments.
4. Post-assessment test will be given after groups have finished their assignments.
5. When results are back, data will be collected and reviewed on the groups.
6. A meeting will take place with administration and teachers to discuss the data that was collected.

**Resources and research tools needed for data gathering:**

1. Paper/pencil assignments
2. Google documents to give pre and post-assessments

**Draft timeline for completion or implementation of activities**

1. January 2013- Groups are to be determined to give assignment to.
2. January 2013- Pre-assessment will be given to students.
3. February 2013- Assignment will be given to students.
4. February 2013- Post-assessment will be given to students.
5. March 2013- Data will be collected on groups and meeting with administration/faculty will occur.

**Persons responsible for implementation of the action research plan:**

1. Administrative Staff
2. Kari Widener

**Process for monitoring the achievement of goals and objectives:**

1. Personal reflections.
2. Results of formative and summative assessments (if applicable).
3. Communicate with faculty and administration.

**Assessment instrument(s) to evaluate the effectiveness of the action research study:**

*Assessments will be monitored in several different ways.*

1. Qualitative data such as positive attitudes and increased morale from students who are given project based learning assignments versus those who aren’t.
2. Quantitative data through pre and post assessments and assignment grades.